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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0018

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August 5, 2003

Scott Whitney, Compliance Officer
Drinking Water Program
Division of Health Engineering
State House Station 11
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

RE: Department of Human Services Request for
Consultation Regarding Transport of Bulk Water by
Carrabasset Spring Water.
Docket No 2003-399

Dear Mr. Whitney:

On June 4, 2003, you requested Commission review of the application of Carrabasset Spring Water for authorization, pursuant to 22 M.R.S.A. §2660-A(3), to transport water for commercial purposes. That statute requires that your office consult with the PUC and other agencies before authorizing commercial transport of water beyond the municipality in which it occurs naturally. This letter constitutes the PUC's assessment of whether Carrabasset Spring Water's proposal would "constitute a threat to public health, safety, or welfare" in regard to its effect on any public water utility.

Our Staff reviewed the Carrabasset Spring Water's proposal to determine whether the proposed withdrawal of water would have any adverse effect on the public water utilities in the area. The Canton and Rumford Water Districts, and the Dixfield Water Department were contacted. The review indicates that the proposed withdrawals should not adversely affect these water utilities' water sources or watersheds.

It is our opinion that transport of water from Carrabasset Spring Water will not constitute a threat to public health, safety, or welfare. The public utility component of the waiver process should be reviewed, to ensure circumstances have not changed, each time the authorization is renewed.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have questions regarding the public water utility impact of the Carrabasset Spring Water's application.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

cc: Raymond Hammond
David Orr Dixfield Water Department
Brian Gagnon Rumford Water District
Randy Gammon Canton Water District